

**IHS Integrated Diabetes Education Recognition Program
Sample Memo Administrative Commitment Statement**

Date: September 12, 2002

From: Director, PIMC

SUBJECT: Statement of Support for Diabetes Education

To: Whom it may concern

Diabetes is an important issue and major health care problem facing American Indian/Alaska Native people served by the Phoenix Service Unit. Long-term complications, including dialysis, amputations, heart attacks, vision problems and other equally disabling conditions are resulting from uncontrolled diabetes. Research has shown that with healthy behavior changes, diabetes can be prevented in high-risk populations. Research has also shown that improving blood glucose control early in the disease process can prevent or delay these long-term complications.

Learning to live with diabetes and prevent diabetes is a challenge. For most people, lifestyle behavior changes are needed to achieve blood glucose control. The process of change is complex and can be enhanced by empowering persons with diabetes with the knowledge and skills to make healthier lifestyle choices and changes.

We strongly support the delivery of diabetes self-care management and education activities for American Indian/Alaska Native people who receive these services at the Phoenix Service Unit.

**IHS Integrated Diabetes Education Recognition Program
Sample Letter Administrative Commitment Statement**

August 28, 2002

Director
Centers for Excellence
Phoenix Indian Medical Center
4212 North 16th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85016

Dear Director XXXX:

Diabetes is an important issue facing American Indian/Alaska Native people. It is perhaps most important to those communities that are members of the (Agency) because of the especially high rates of diabetes among our members. Long-term complications including dialysis, amputations, heart attacks, vision problems and other equally disabling consequences result from uncontrolled diabetes. Research has shown that with healthy behavioral changes, diabetes can be prevented in high-risk populations. Research has also shown that improving blood glucose control early in the disease process can prevent or delay long-term complications.

Learning to live with diabetes and prevent diabetes is a challenge. For most people, lifestyle behavior changes are needed to achieve blood glucose control. The process of change is complex and is only possible when the person at risk or living with the disease is a participant in the process and is empowered with knowledge and skills to make the healthy choices necessary.

Without question we support efforts to deliver diabetes self-management knowledge and skills to or Community members. We appreciate all of the support we receive from (Agency) and applaud your efforts to improve the (Agency's) ability to serve the members of tribal communities throughout the (Area).

Sincerely,

Health Services Director

cc: File